

Appl. No. 09/729,626
Atty. Docket No. 7880M
Amdt. dated October 9, 2003
Reply to Office Action of April 21, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1-18, 21-25, 31-34 and 37-38 are now in the case.

Applicants have cancelled claims 19-20, 26-28, 35-36 and 39-40 without prejudice.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the features of a cleaning sheet comprising a first layer of nonwoven material, a second layer of nonwoven material wherein the first layer is entangled to the second layer, wherein the first and second layers form a structure having a working face and a back face, wherein the working face comprises non-random raised regions and recessed regions and wherein the non-random raised regions and the recessed regions form pockets on the surface of said working face for trapping particulates from the surface to be cleaned.

Applicants have amended claims 17 and 21-24 to correct their dependency.

Each of these amendments is supported by the specification, claims and drawings as filed (see page 7, lines 31-34 and page 8, lines 1-6).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 17, 19-20 and 26-28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention.

Applicants submit that claim 17 has been amended and now depends on claim 15.

It is Applicants' position that this amendment overcomes the rejection.

Applicants submit that claims 19-20 and 26-28 have been cancelled without prejudice therefore mooting the rejection.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are therefore respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Green way '461.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is directed to a macroscopically three-dimensional **non-apertured** cleaning sheet.

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Applicants submit that the term "non-apertured" as defined in the specification "means that the sheets of the present invention have no voids in the working surface, through the body of the sheet to the back face, larger than the randomly formed spaces between the fibers of the structure formed during the entangling process." (see page 5, lines 7-10)

Applicants note that the fabric structure of Green way '461 includes holes extending through the fabric. (see Figs. 8A-10B)

As a result, it is Applicants' position that Green way '461 does not disclose a non-apertured cleaning sheet.

In addition, Applicants submit that Green way '462 does not disclose a non-apertured cleaning sheet have a working face and a back face, where the working face comprises non-random raised regions and recessed regions and where the non-random raised regions and the recessed regions form pockets on the surface of the working face for trapping particulates from the surface to be cleaned.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are therefore respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Green way '461.

For the sake of brevity, Applicants submit that Green way '461 does not teach or even remotely suggest a non-apertured cleaning sheet as claimed.

Applicants note that "[t]o establish a prima facie case of obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art." *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974).

It is therefore Applicants' position that the office action has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Claims 15-18, 19-25 and 31-38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Green way '461 respectively in view of Shizuno et al. '397, further in view of Floyd et al. '001 and further in view of Lin '664.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the previous references neither teach nor suggest either alone or in combination a non-apertured cleaning sheet having a working face

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and a back face, where the working face comprises non-random raised regions and recessed regions and where the non-random raised regions and the recessed regions form pockets on the surface of the working face for trapping particulates from the surface to be cleaned.

It is therefore Applicants' position that the office action has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are therefore respectfully requested.

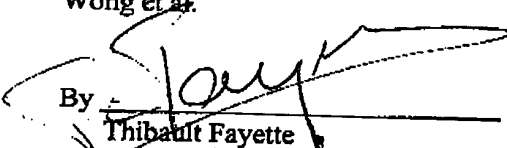
It is submitted that all the claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action on all claims is therefore requested.

If the next action is other than to allow the claims, the favor of a telephonic interview is requested with the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Wong et al.

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October 9, 2003
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